

Arizona Copper Company Smelter, Blower House and Shed  
(Texaco Products Building)  
Clifton Townsite  
West of Frisco Street  
Clifton  
Greenlee County  
Arizona

HABS No. AZ-174-A

HABS  
ARIZ  
6-CLIFT,  
9A-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Western Region  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, California 94107

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## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

### ARIZONA COPPER COMPANY SMELTER, BLOWER HOUSE AND SHED (Texaco Products Building)

HABS No. AZ-174-A

#### Location:

Clifton Townsite, West of Frisco Street, Clifton, Greenlee County, Arizona

#### Significance:

Associated with the Arizona Copper Company smelter as one of two remaining buildings of the smelter complex.

#### Description:

Typical of industrial buildings, the Blower House has a utilitarian appearance. The tall, single-story steel building sits on a concrete slab foundation. The roof is gabled. The structure is sheathed in corrugated metal. Wooden vents appear at the gable ends. Wood sash windows appear at each end of the building. A large garage-type door is located at the south side of the building with a concrete ramp leading up to it. The word "Texaco" is painted in large letters above the garage door. A wood-framed corrugated metal outbuilding is placed adjacent to the Blower House on the east side. Its exterior appearance is similar to the main building.

#### History:

This frame and corrugated metal building was constructed in 1901. It housed the giant blowers which were used to force air through the furnaces at the smelter to stoke the fires and to blow the smoke resulting from the process through an exhaust tunnel excavated in the mountain behind the smelter. After the construction of a new smelter south of Clifton in 1914, the building was used as the bulk storage plant for the Texaco oil company. It was first owned by Minor Simms and subsequently by his son Marshall Simms.<sup>1</sup>

#### Sources (endnotes):

1. Robert G. Graham, "Clifton Townsite Historic District Nomination," manuscript on file at the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, Phoenix, January 24, 1990; interview with Al Fernandez, December 16, 1993; Bill Conger "Old Arizona Copper Company Smelter," Morenci Copper Review (May 1986): 7.

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SKETCH MAP  
Scale: None

